

House File 459 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 459
BY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

(SUCCESSOR TO HSB 169)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to supplementary weighting for certain shared
2 operational functions and including effective date and
3 applicability provisions.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 257.11, subsection 5, paragraph a,
2 subparagraph 1, as amended by 2023 Iowa Acts, House File 68,
3 section 15, is amended to read as follows:

4 (1) In order to provide additional funding to increase
5 student opportunities and redirect more resources to student
6 programming for school districts that share operational
7 functions, a district that shares with a political subdivision
8 one or more operational functions of a curriculum director,
9 information technology specialist, master social worker,
10 independent social worker, work-based learning coordinator,
11 special education director, mental health professional
12 who holds a statement of recognition issued by the board
13 of educational examiners, college and career transition
14 counselor or coordinator, school resource officer, or school
15 counselor, or one or more operational functions in the areas
16 of superintendent management, business management, human
17 resources, transportation, or operation and maintenance for at
18 least twenty percent of the school year shall be assigned a
19 supplementary weighting for each shared operational function.
20 A school district that shares an operational function in
21 the area of superintendent management shall be assigned a
22 supplementary weighting of nine pupils for the function. A
23 school district that shares the operational functions of
24 a special education director or an information technology
25 specialist, or that shares an operational function in the area
26 of business management, human resources, transportation, or
27 operation and maintenance shall be assigned a supplementary
28 weighting of five pupils for the function. A school district
29 that shares the operational functions of a curriculum director;
30 a master social worker or an independent social worker licensed
31 under [chapters 147 and 154C](#); a work-based learning coordinator;
32 ~~a special education director~~; a mental health professional
33 who holds a statement of recognition issued by the board
34 of educational examiners; a college and career transition
35 counselor or coordinator; a school resource officer; or a

1 school counselor shall be assigned a supplementary weighting of
 2 three pupils for the function. The additional weighting shall
 3 be assigned for each discrete operational function shared.
 4 However, a school district may receive the additional weighting
 5 under [this subsection](#) for sharing the services of an individual
 6 with a political subdivision or another school district even if
 7 the type of operational function performed by the individual
 8 for the school district and the type of operational function
 9 performed by the individual for the political subdivision or
 10 another school district are not the same operational function,
 11 so long as either both operational functions are eligible for
 12 weighting under [this subsection](#) or the operational function
 13 the individual performs for the school district is special
 14 education director. In either case, the school district
 15 shall be assigned the additional weighting for the type of
 16 operational function that the individual performs for the
 17 school district, and the school district shall not receive
 18 additional weighting for any other function performed by the
 19 individual. The operational function sharing arrangement does
 20 not need to be a newly implemented sharing arrangement to
 21 receive supplementary weighting under [this subsection](#).

22 Sec. 2. Section 257.11, subsection 5, paragraph a,
 23 subparagraph (2), as amended by 2023 Iowa Acts, House File 68,
 24 section 15, is amended by adding the following new subparagraph
 25 division:

26 NEW SUBPARAGRAPH DIVISION. (0b) *Information technology*
 27 *specialist* means an individual whose assigned job duties
 28 primarily include any of the following:

29 (i) Establishment of and enforcement of standards and
 30 specifications for network computer systems and user support
 31 for such systems.

32 (ii) Development of computer systems applications, or
 33 the development, installation, and maintenance of local area
 34 network and mainframe computer systems or server environments
 35 and user support for such systems.

1 Sec. 3. Section 257.11, subsection 5, paragraph b, as
2 amended by 2023 Iowa Acts, House File 68, section 15, is
3 amended to read as follows:

4 *b.* (1) Notwithstanding paragraph "a", subparagraph (1),
5 each operational function assigned a supplementary weighting
6 of five pupils under paragraph "a", subparagraph (1), shall
7 instead be assigned a supplementary weighting of four pupils
8 for the school budget years year beginning ~~on or after~~ July 1,
9 2022, ~~but before July 1, 2035.~~

10 (2) Notwithstanding paragraph "a", subparagraph (1), each
11 operational function assigned a supplementary weighting of
12 three pupils under paragraph "a", subparagraph (1), shall
13 instead be assigned a supplementary weighting of two pupils
14 for the school budget years year beginning ~~on or after~~ July 1,
15 2022, ~~but before July 1, 2035.~~

16 Sec. 4. Section 257.11, subsection 5, paragraph d, as
17 amended by 2023 Iowa Acts, House File 68, section 15, is
18 amended to read as follows:

19 *d.* Supplementary weighting pursuant to **this subsection** shall
20 be available to a school district during the period commencing
21 with the budget year beginning July 1, 2014, through the budget
22 year beginning July 1, 2034. The maximum amount of additional
23 weighting for which a school district shall be eligible in
24 a budget year is ~~twenty-one~~ twenty-five additional pupils.
25 Criteria for determining the qualification of operational
26 functions for supplementary weighting shall be determined by
27 the department by rule, through consideration of increased
28 student opportunities.

29 Sec. 5. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act, being deemed of immediate
30 importance, takes effect upon enactment.

31 Sec. 6. APPLICABILITY. This Act applies July 1, 2023, for
32 school budget years beginning on or after that date, subject
33 to the school budget year limitations of section 257.11,
34 subsection 5.

35

EXPLANATION

1 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
2 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

3 Code section 257.11(5) establishes a list of eligible
4 operational functions and positions eligible for a
5 supplementary weighting for school districts and area education
6 agencies. Legislation in 2021 established a reduction in the
7 number of pupils assigned for certain functions and positions
8 and 2023 Iowa Acts, House File 68, extended the program until
9 the end of the school budget year beginning July 1, 2034. For
10 school budget years beginning on or after July 1, 2022, until
11 the end of the school budget year beginning July 1, 2034, each
12 operational function assigned a supplementary weighting of five
13 pupils is assigned four pupils and each operational function
14 assigned a supplementary weighting of three pupils will be
15 assigned two pupils. This bill removes the reduction in the
16 number of pupils assigned for school budget years beginning on
17 or after July 1, 2023, until the end of the program.

18 The bill adds information technology specialist to the
19 eligible shared operational functions and provides a definition
20 for that position. Under the bill, an information technology
21 specialist will receive a supplementary weighting of five
22 pupils. The bill also moves special education directors from
23 the three-pupil category to the five-pupil category.

24 Current law also imposes a maximum of 21 pupils of additional
25 weighting per school district per budget year for sharing
26 operational functions. The bill increases that maximum to 25
27 pupils.

28 The bill takes effect upon enactment and applies to school
29 budget years beginning on or after July 1, 2023, subject to the
30 program sunset, which occurs following the school budget year
31 beginning July 1, 2034.